Region including Sikkim due to non receipt of Utilisation Certificates and non release of matching State Share for the early release under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana by the concerned States.

(d) Cumulatively since the inception of the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) *i.e.* 1-12-1997, 13444 micro enterprises have been set up, 22547 urban poor have been provided training and 36.99 lakhs number of mandays have been created under Urban Wage Employment Programme in the North-Eastern Region including Sikkim.

(e) During the year 2005-06, out of the total Budget Allocation of Rs. 160.00 Crore for the implementation of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), Rs. 16.00 Crore have been earmarked for the North-Eastern Region including Sikkim.

Task Force on employment opportunities

2779. SHRI R. K. ANAND:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many task forces on employment opportunities had been set up during the last five years and the expenses incurred thereon;

(b) how many recommendations of these task forces have been implemented and what additional employment have been generated in organized and unorganized sectors during the last one year; and

(c) the progress made on Employment Guarantee Scheme, designed to protect interests of the poor as announced in the National Common Minimum Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) One Task Force and One Special Group have been set up on Employment Opportunities during the last five years. These are (i) Task Force on Employment Opportunities under the Chairmanship of Sh. M.S. Ahluwalia,

which gave its report on June 2001, and (ii). Special group on targeting ten million employment opportunities per year under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.P. Gupta, which gave their report on May 2002.

No additional expenditure was incurred while preparing these two reports because the Chairmen were the then Members of Planning Commission.

(b) and (c) The major recommendations of these Task Force reports were incorporated in the Tenth Plan. The employment estimates are available from the quinquennial rounds of NSSO. The employment has grown from 315.84 million in 1993-94 to 336.75 million in 1999-2000 on Current Daily Status (CDS) basis.

Employment guarantee for urban poor

2780. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme is proposed to be launched for providing guaranted employment to the urban poor as in the case of rural poor;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation is already implementing an employment oriented Urban Poverty Alleviation Centrally sponsored scheme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), on all India basis, with effect from 1.12.1997 with a view to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed and underemployed poor through, firstly, encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures by those who have studied upto 9th standard and, secondly, by providing wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets.